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Maryland Monthly Labor Review

NOVEMBER, 1993

Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development
Office of Labor Market Analysis and Information
1100 North Eutaw Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

William Donald Schaefer, Governor
Mark L. Wasserman, Secretary

LABOR FORCE DEVELOPMENTS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE

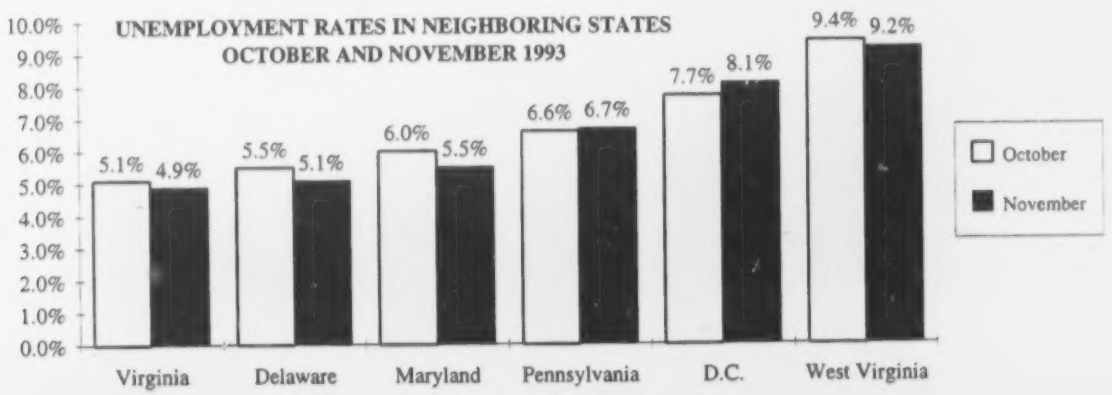
Maryland's employment level rose for the third consecutive month, causing a somewhat unexpected reduction in November's jobless rate. For tne first time since 1991, Maryland's unemployment rate broke the 6.0 percent level, falling by one-half a percentage point to 5.5 percent. Nationally. a jobless decline was also reported with the rate falling by a lesser 0.2 percentage points to 6.1 percent.

During November, some 12,800 additional jobseekers found work, lifting employment to 2,495,937, an all time high for the month and the fourth highest level ever recorded. This expansion, coupled with a slight decline in the labor force, caused the number of unemployed to fall by just over 13,850 persons to 144,775. Last November, about 51,800 fewer Marylanders were employed and 6.3 percent of the labor force, or 164,555 persons, were without a job.

November's labor market movements were somewhat atypical. While employment normally rises in November, the influx of seasonal jobseekers tends to overpower employment expansion, causing joblessness to escalate. This year, however, the labor force level actually declined somewhat—a decline which may merely reflect a returning to normalcy following two months of unexpected expansion. Without the pressure exerted by additional jobseekers, the full benefit of the monthly employment gain was realized, enabling unemployment to subside.

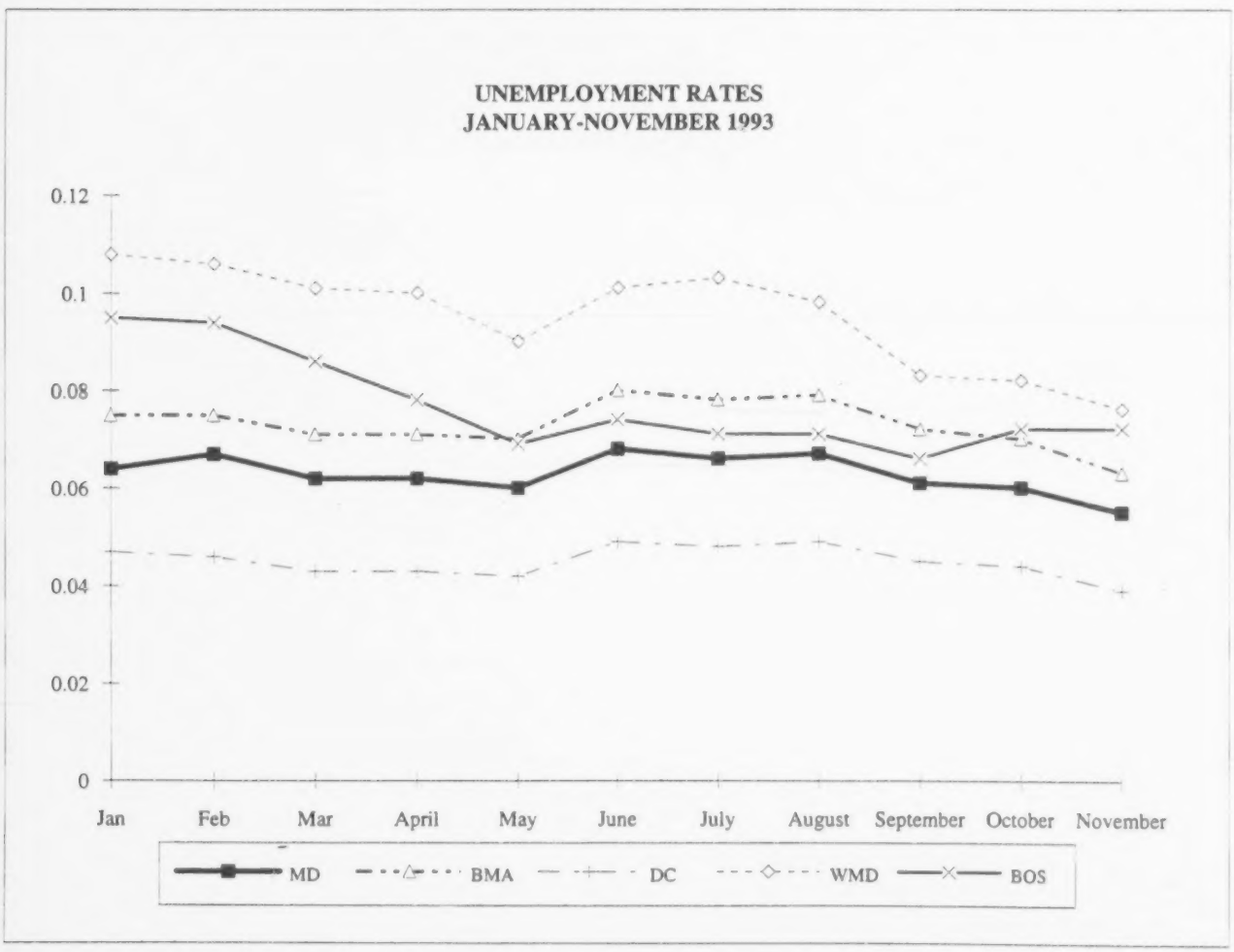
	November 1993	October 1993	November 1992	October 1992
(Data not seasonally adjusted)				
Civilian Labor Force	2,640,712	2,641,730	2,608,690	2,608,995
Total Employment	2495,937	2,483,099	2,444,135	2,447,858
Total Unemployment	144,775	158,631	164,555	161,137
Unemployment Rate	5.5	6.0	6.3	6.2
National Unemployment Rate	6.1	6.3	7.0	6.8

With the exception of Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia, declining joblessness was the norm throughout the region. Maryland's jobless rate, while showing the largest downward movement, retained its position in the regional jobless ranking where unemployment rates in November ranged from a low of 4.9 percent in Virginia to a high of 9.2 percent in West Virginia.



TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - MARYLAND AND REGIONS

	NOVEMBER 1993		OCTOBER 1993	
	NUMBER	RATE	NUMBER	RATE
MARYLAND	144,775	5.5	158,631	6.0
BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA	77,868	6.3	86,072	7.0
MARYLAND'S D.C. SUBURBS	41,778	3.9	46,530	4.4
WESTERN MARYLAND	8,580	7.6	9,256	8.2
BALANCE OF STATE	16,550	7.2	16,773	7.2



REGIONAL ECONOMICS

BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA

In the Baltimore Metropolitan Area, rising employment helped to reduce the unemployment rolls to 77,868 and lower the jobless rate by a hefty 0.7 percentage points to 7.0 percent in November. Labor market conditions improved throughout the region, with employment advancing and unemployment falling in each of the local jurisdictions. Baltimore City's rate, while remaining the highest in the region and the second highest statewide at 9.6 percent in November, moved out of double-digits for the first time in the past seven months. Within the BMA, the retail trade sector was the biggest supplier of jobs during November, with almost 50.0 percent of the industry gain resulting from hiring at general merchandise stores. Elsewhere on industry payrolls, hiring and recall activity uplifted employment in a number of manufacturing and services industries, with the largest gains reported in transportation equipment and health services.

MARYLAND'S D.C. SUBURBS

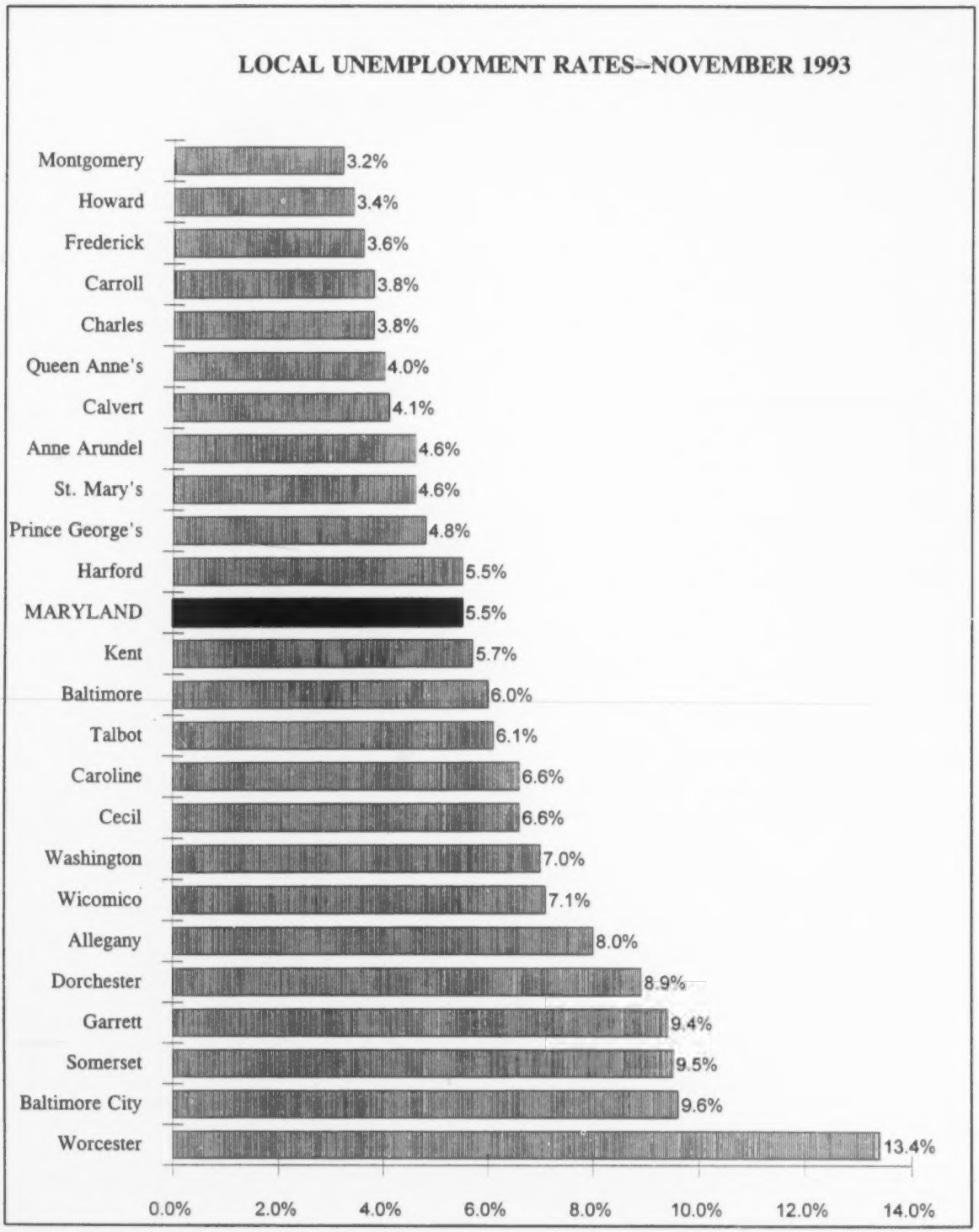
Seasonal hiring also uplifted the employment potential for residents in the D.C. suburbs during November. Just over 46.0 percent of the statewide employment increase in November was centered in the region, boosting employment to 1,018,123. Aided by this increase, the number of unemployed fell by just over 4,750 persons, causing the jobless rate to drop from 4.4 percent in October to 3.9 percent in November. Last year, unemployment in the region, while declining, dropped back by a mere 0.1 percentage points to 4.6 percent. Within the region, the largest rate reduction in November, of 0.6 percentage points, occurred in Prince George's County where unemployment fell to 4.8 percent as area jobseekers took advantage of hiring activity reported locally in trucking, health services and real estate management.

WESTERN MARYLAND

Unemployment in the Western region took an unexpected turn during November, with the jobless rate declining over the month for the first time ever. During November, employment expansion, coupled with a decline in the labor force, lowered the regional unemployment count by just over 675 persons to 8,580 and the jobless rate from 8.2 percent to 7.6 percent. Unemployment rates dropped back from month-ago and year-ago levels in each of the three western counties. In Garrett, the only county in the region to report declining employment during November, the withdrawal of workers from the labor market eased the jobless rate down to a 1993 low of 9.4 percent. During November, a number of manufacturers in the region reported short-term layoffs. The impact of these and other seasonal reductions in construction were, however, minimized by upturns in general merchandise stores, food stores and business services.

BALANCE OF STATE

Seasonal layoffs continued to temper job market conditions in the region, causing employment to decline for the fourth consecutive month. While the number of employed in the region fell by just over 1,075 persons in November, a slightly larger decline in the labor force helped to maintain joblessness at 7.2 percent. Locally, unemployment trends were mixed, with jobless increases reported in four local jurisdictions. Worcester County's rate, rising by more than three full percentage points to a statewide high of 13.4 percent, showed the largest movement. Employment in the county continued to slide as layoffs in tourist-related services and trade industries persisted. Elsewhere in the region, reductions in agribusiness and food processing impacted local labor market conditions.


LOCAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATES--NOVEMBER 1993
Montgomery 3.2%
Howard 3.4%
Frederick 3.6%
Carroll 3.8%
Charles 3.8%
Queen Anne's 4.0%
Calvert 4.1%
Anne Arundel 4.6%
St. Mary's 4.6%
Prince George's 4.8%
Harford 5.5%
MARYLAND 5.5%
Kent 5.7%
Baltimore 6.0%
Talbot 6.1%
Caroline 6.6%
Cecil 6.6%
Washington 7.0%
Wicomico 7.1%
Allegany 8.0%
Dorchester 8.9%
Garrett 9.4%
Somerset 9.5%
Baltimore City 9.6%
Worcester 13.4%
0.0% 2.0% 4.0% 6.0% 8.0% 10.0% 12.0% 14.0%

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF LABOR MARKET ANALYSIS AND INFORMATION
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STATE OF MARYLAND
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT
BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE
NOVEMBER 1993

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE		EMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	NOVEMBER	OCTOBER*	NOVEMBER	OCTOBER*	NOVEMBER	OCTOBER*	NOV.	OCT.*	NOV.1992
MARYLAND	2,640,712	2,641,730	2,495,937	2,483,099	144,775	158,631	5.5	6.0	6.3
BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA	1,237,648	1,238,059	1,159,780	1,151,987	77,868	86,072	6.3	7.0	7.1
BALTIMORE CITY	332,933	333,767	301,040	299,017	31,893	34,750	9.6	10.4	10.3
ANNE ARUNDEL	229,232	228,887	218,644	217,175	10,588	11,712	4.6	5.1	5.2
BALTIMORE	378,345	378,524	355,511	353,122	22,834	25,402	6.0	6.7	6.8
CARROLL	67,773	67,567	65,228	64,790	2,545	2,777	3.8	4.1	5.3
HARFORD	98,787	98,838	93,381	92,753	5,406	6,085	5.5	6.2	6.8
HOWARD	112,731	112,682	108,845	108,114	3,886	4,568	3.4	4.1	4.0
QUEEN ANNE'S	17,846	17,795	17,131	17,016	715	779	4.0	4.4	5.7
D. C. AREA	1,059,901	1,058,718	1,018,123	1,012,188	41,778	46,530	3.9	4.4	4.6
CALVERT	29,495	29,394	28,282	28,117	1,213	1,277	4.1	4.3	5.5
CHARLES	55,757	55,707	53,655	53,342	2,102	2,365	3.8	4.2	5.0
FREDERICK	86,072	85,646	82,951	82,467	3,121	3,179	3.6	3.7	4.8
MONTGOMERY	449,507	448,674	435,228	432,691	14,279	15,983	3.2	3.6	3.6
PRINCE GEORGE'S	439,070	439,297	418,007	415,570	21,063	23,727	4.8	5.4	5.6
WESTERN MARYLAND	112,659	113,147	104,079	103,891	8,580	9,256	7.6	8.2	9.1
ALLEGANY	33,961	33,882	31,246	30,959	2,715	2,923	8.0	8.6	10.0
GARRETT	14,720	14,907	13,337	13,454	1,383	1,453	9.4	9.7	10.3
WASHINGTON	63,978	64,358	59,496	59,478	4,482	4,880	7.0	7.6	8.4
BALANCE OF STATE	230,506	231,805	213,956	215,032	16,550	16,773	7.2	7.2	8.2
CAROLINE	15,066	15,245	14,075	14,150	991	1,095	6.6	7.2	7.1
CECIL	39,817	39,883	37,178	36,922	2,639	2,961	6.6	7.4	8.8
DORCHESTER	17,788	17,866	16,204	16,375	1,584	1,491	8.9	8.3	9.4
KENT	10,129	10,317	9,553	9,611	576	706	5.7	6.8	6.7
ST. MARY'S	49,272	49,202	46,982	46,536	2,290	2,666	4.6	5.4	5.9
SOMERSET	13,252	13,602	11,990	12,481	1,262	1,121	9.5	8.2	8.6
TALBOT	18,806	18,562	17,650	17,555	1,156	1,007	6.1	5.4	6.3
WICOMICO	44,701	44,405	41,549	40,973	3,152	3,432	7.1	7.7	8.0
WORCESTER	21,675	22,723	18,775	20,429	2,900	2,294	13.4	10.1	14.4
UNITED STATES**	128,521,000	128,547,000	120,632,000	120,446,000	7,890,000	8,101,000	6.1	6.3	7.0

*Estimates for the state are revised.
**Source: U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics
NOTE: Figures may not add due to rounding. These are estimates relating to the week of the 12th of each month. The count is of persons not jobs. All data are not seasonally adjusted.

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS BY PLACE OF WORK

Seasonal employment patterns dominated industrial activity during November. With winter approaching, normal seasonal retrenchment reduced employment in selected services, manufacturing and construction industries. Seasonal downswings in these industries, however, were downplayed by increases in other sectors, particularly in trade and government. The net result of November's labor market activity was the addition of 7,000 jobs to statewide business payrolls. November's job gain, while exceeding the average for the 1990-1992 recessionary period, was only about one-half of the normal monthly upturn.

The hiring of temporary workers for the holiday season was the leading employment trend during November as employers in retail establishments boosted their payrolls by 7,100 jobs. Gains at general merchandise and apparel stores, when combined, accounted for nearly three-fourths of the overall expansion in the retail sector. Miscellaneous retail establishments such as card shops, florists and book stores also reported hiring of note. These gains, when combined with lesser increases at food and furniture stores, more than compensated for seasonal declines in restaurants and among wholesale trade distributors.

Government, the second largest jobs provider during November, grew by about 2,500 jobs. The gains in government, however, resulted primarily from recall activity rather than from new job generation, with county government and schools accounting for the entire monthly gain in the public sector.

Finance, insurance and real estate added a seasonally weak 200 jobs over the month. The finance sector was the only industry component to show any positive movement as refinancing activity continued to create additional demand at financial institutions.

The remaining service-producing industries reported modest employment declines over the month. The services industry, which normally adds jobs during November, dropped about 100 jobs this year. A number of services industries continued to report seasonal layoffs. Amusements turned in the largest losses, followed by hotels and agricultural services. Business services, an industry which has enjoyed almost uninterrupted growth throughout 1993, cut about 100 jobs over the month. The impact of these declines was almost entirely offset by upturns in educational, health and social services.

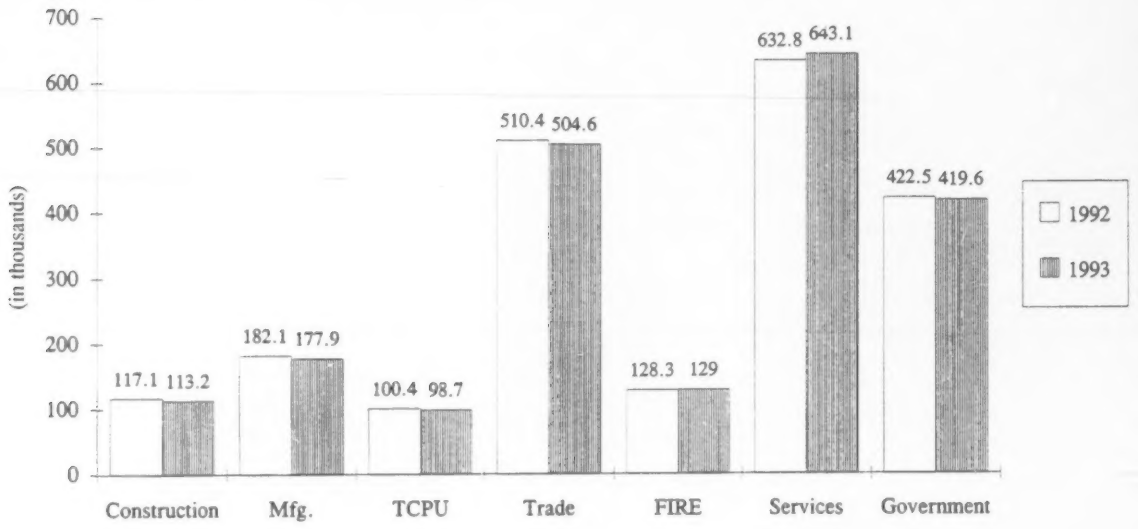
In the transportation, communications and public utilities industry, about 500 fewer jobs were reported in November. In transportation, declines in water transportation downplayed gains in trucking and pulled the industry down by about 200 jobs. In both communications and utilities, where incentives have been offered to encourage early retirements, a combined reduction of 300 jobs was reported.

Seasonal layoffs continued in the construction industry, with November's loss of 1,900 jobs marking the third consecutive monthly decline in this sector. Job reductions were reported by both general building and special trade contractors, with layoff activity impacting more heavily upon workers in special trades.

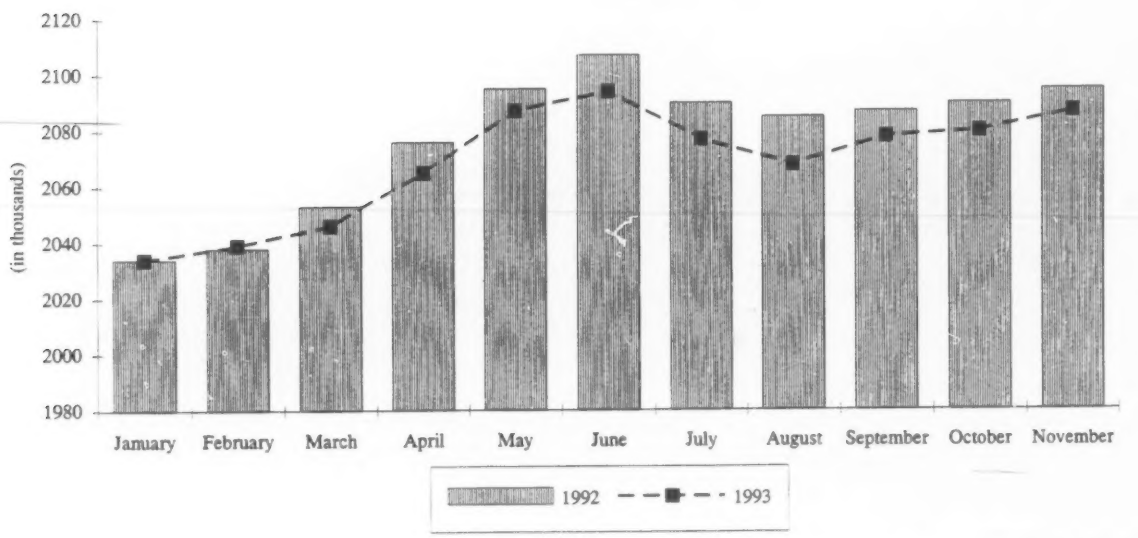
Employment in Maryland's manufacturing industries was little changed during November as gains offset losses. On the down side, the largest loss, of 200 jobs, occurred at food processing plants where the processing and canning of fall crops was nearly completed. Meanwhile, on the plus side, recall activity in transportation equipment restored some 300 jobs, a gain which helped to overcome the seasonal drop in food processing.

For those workers employed in manufacturing industries, workweeks were extended in November, rising from 41.6 hours to 42.0 hours. Aided by this increase, weekly paychecks increased by just over $3.00 to $540.54. In durable goods industries, workweeks were lengthened to 43.3 hours in November, adding more than $8.00 to weekly checks. Workweeks were also longer in nondurable goods industries, however, workers saw their paychecks drop due to a decline, from $12.20 to $12.10, in hourly pay rates. During November, overtime hours prevailed in all but three industries—instruments, textiles and printing.

MARYLAND NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY
NOVEMBER 1992 AND NOVEMBER 1993



TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT
JANUARY-NOVEMBER 1992 AND 1993



NOTE: Data are not seasonally adjusted.

MARYLAND
NONAGRICULTURAL PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT* BY INDUSTRY
BY PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT
(in thousands)
NOVEMBER 1993

Industry	Nov. 1993	Oct.** 1993	Nov. 1992	Percent Change Nov. 1992-Nov. 1993
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	2,087.3	2,080.3	2,094.8	-0.4
Goods Producing	292.3	294.1	300.4	-2.7
Mining	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0
Construction	113.2	115.1	117.1	-3.3
Heavy Construction	14.7	14.7	14.7	0.0
Manufacturing	177.9	177.8	182.1	-2.3
Durable Goods	86.1	85.9	89.3	-3.6
Lumber & Wood Products	3.3	3.3	3.3	0.0
Stone, Clay, & Glass Products	6.5	6.5	6.5	0.0
Concrete, Gypsum, Plaster	4.1	4.1	4.1	0.0
Other Stone, Clay, & Glass	2.4	2.4	2.4	0.0
Primary Metal Industries	8.3	8.3	9.0	-7.8
Blast Furnaces	6.8	6.7	7.4	-8.1
Fabricated Metal Products	8.4	8.5	8.6	-2.3
Fabricated Structural Metal Products	3.2	3.2	3.3	-3.0
Other Fabricated Metal Products (Inc.342,343,345-349)	4.3	4.4	4.4	-2.3
Industrial Machinery	14.8	14.9	14.6	1.4
Refrigeration & Service Machinery	2.3	2.3	1.9	21.1
Other Industrial Machinery & Equipment (Inc. 352-357)	8.6	8.7	8.8	-2.3
Electronic Equipment	12.1	12.0	12.7	-4.7
Communications Equipment	4.7	4.6	4.5	4.4
Electronic Component	2.7	2.7	3.1	-12.9
Other Electronic Equipment	4.7	4.7	5.1	-7.8
Transportation Equipment	10.7	10.4	11.6	-7.8
Motor Vehicles	4.8	4.7	4.7	2.1
Other Transportation (Inc. 372-375,379)	3.5	3.2	4.1	-14.6
Instruments & Related	17.1	17.1	18.0	-5.0
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	2.0	2.0	2.1	-4.8
Nondurable Goods	91.8	91.9	92.8	-1.1
Food & Kindred Products	22.3	22.5	23.1	-3.5
Meat Products	5.1	5.1	5.5	-7.3
Beverages	3.9	3.9	3.9	0.0
Other Food & Kindred (Inc. 202-207)	8.6	8.7	8.8	-2.3
Textile Mill, Apparel	9.1	9.1	9.0	1.1
Paper & Allied Products	8.9	8.8	9.1	-2.2
Printing & Publishing	26.9	26.8	27.0	-0.4
Chemicals and Allied Products	13.7	13.8	13.8	-0.7
Rubber & Miscellaneous Plastics	8.3	8.3	8.4	-1.2

Industry	Nov. 1993	Oct.** 1993	Nov. 1992	Percent Change Nov. 1992-Nov. 1993
Service Producing	1,795.0	1,786.2	1,794.4	0.0
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	98.7	99.2	100.4	-1.7
Transportation	55.6	55.8	56.7	-1.9
Railroad Transportation	3.6	3.6	3.7	-2.7
Trucking & Warehousing	27.5	27.3	28.4	-3.2
Communications & Utilities	43.1	43.4	43.7	-1.4
Communications	26.8	27.0	27.3	-1.8
Electric, Gas, Sanitary	16.3	16.4	16.4	-0.6
Trade	504.6	497.9	510.4	-1.1
Wholesale Trade	99.4	99.8	103.7	-4.1
Retail Trade	405.2	398.1	406.7	-0.4
Building Materials, Garden Supplies	18.3	18.4	17.2	6.4
General Merchandise Stores	44.5	40.8	44.4	0.2
Food Stores	65.1	64.8	64.7	0.6
Eating & Drinking Places	129.6	130.3	129.3	0.2
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	129.0	128.8	128.3	0.5
Finance	59.4	59.1	57.5	3.3
Depository Institutions	40.5	40.4	39.9	1.5
Commercial Banks	26.6	26.5	26.6	0.0
Insurance	36.7	36.8	37.1	-1.1
Insurance Carriers	24.5	24.5	24.6	-0.4
Real Estate	32.9	32.9	33.7	-2.4
Services	643.1	643.2	632.8	1.6
Business Services	134.4	134.5	130.7	2.8
Health Services	175.5	175.1	172.1	2.0
Hospitals	81.6	81.5	80.7	1.1
Legal Services	15.6	15.6	15.6	0.0
Educational Services	40.1	39.5	39.0	2.8
Private Colleges, Universities	23.0	22.6	22.2	3.6
Total Government	419.6	417.1	422.5	-0.7
Total Federal Government	134.1	134.2	134.5	-0.3
Department of Defense	41.9	41.9	42.8	-2.1
Other Federal Government	92.2	92.3	91.7	0.5
Total State & Local Government	285.5	282.9	288.0	-0.9
Total State Government	93.7	93.6	94.8	-1.2
State Education	34.4	34.0	35.5	-3.1
Other State Government	59.3	59.6	59.3	0.0
Total Local Government	191.8	189.3	193.2	-0.7
Local Education	116.7	114.7	118.2	-1.3
Other Local Government	75.1	74.6	75.0	0.1

*The count is of jobs, not workers. It includes full and part-time wage earners employed during pay period including the 12th of the month.
NOTE: Figures may not add to totals due to rounding and exclusion of some SIC's.
Data are not seasonally adjusted.
**Estimates are revised.
Prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NONAGRICULTURAL PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT* BY INDUSTRY
BY PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT
(in thousands)
BY REGION--NOVEMBER 1993

Industry	Baltimore Metropolitan Area		Maryland Portion D.C. Suburbs		Western Maryland		Balance of State	
	Nov. 1993	Oct. 1993**	Nov. 1993	Oct. 1993**	Nov. 1993	Oct. 1993**	Nov. 1993	Oct. 1993**
Total Nonagricultural Employment	1,088.8	1,084.4	760.5	757.8	91.9	92.1	143.4	144.6
Goods Producing	161.6	162.4	81.8	81.9	20.4	20.7	29.3	29.7
Mining	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2			0.2	0.2
Construction	53.1	54.3	48.3	48.4	4.5	4.6	7.6	7.7
Manufacturing	108.3	107.9	33.3	33.3	15.2	15.4	21.5	21.8
Durable Goods	55.0	54.7	16.2	16.1	6.7	6.8	8.2	8.3
Nondurable Goods	53.3	53.2	17.1	17.2	8.5	8.6	13.3	13.5
Service Producing	927.2	922.0	678.7	675.9	71.5	71.4	114.1	114.9
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	53.6	54.1	31.2	31.2	4.9	4.9	8.6	8.5
Trade	254.1	250.2	188.7	186.2	24.5	24.3	37.1	37.8
Wholesale Trade	60.5	60.4	29.2	29.3	4.8	4.9	6.0	6.0
Retail Trade	193.6	189.8	159.5	156.9	19.7	19.4	31.1	31.8
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	73.5	73.6	46.7	46.5	3.2	3.2	5.0	5.0
Services	334.4	334.2	243.3	244.2	22.7	22.8	35.0	35.4
Total Government	211.6	209.9	168.8	167.8	16.2	16.2	28.4	28.2
Federal	48.5	48.6	73.4	73.5	1.7	1.7	7.1	7.1
State	66.9	66.5	18.3	18.2	4.9	4.9	6.1	6.0
Local	96.2	94.8	77.1	76.1	9.6	9.6	15.2	15.1

*The count is of jobs, not workers. It includes full and part-time wage earners employed during pay period including the 12th of the month.
**Estimates are revised.
Selected data below the major industry level is available upon request. Estimates are also available for Baltimore City.
Prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NOTE: Data are not seasonally adjusted.

HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES
NOVEMBER 1993

Industry	Average Weekly Hours		Average Weekly Earnings		Average Hourly Earnings	
	Nov. 1993	Oct. 1993	Nov. 1993	Oct. 1993	Nov. 1993	Oct. 1993
MARYLAND						
Manufacturing	42.0	41.6	$540.54	$537.47	$12.87	$12.92
Durable Goods	43.3	42.7	598.41	590.11	13.82	13.82
Lumber and Wood Products	40.1	40.2	364.91	367.03	9.10	9.13
Stone, Clay, and Glass Products	46.4	44.3	580.93	538.69	12.52	12.16
Primary Metal Industries	45.1	44.4	800.53	790.76	17.75	17.81
Fabricated Metals	42.6	42.8	500.98	496.91	11.76	11.61
Industrial Machinery	44.4	43.6	623.38	617.38	14.04	14.16
Electronic Equipment	42.6	41.7	492.88	488.72	11.57	11.72
Transportation Equipment	43.7	43.5	751.20	758.21	17.19	17.43
Instruments and Related Products	39.5	39.9	553.00	564.59	14.00	14.15
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	41.0	40.5	405.90	409.05	9.90	10.10
Nondurable Goods	41.0	40.8	496.10	497.76	12.10	12.20
Food and Kindred Products	41.4	42.3	459.95	477.99	11.11	11.30
Textile Mill, Apparel	37.3	36.6	300.64	293.53	8.06	8.02
Paper and Allied Products	41.0	40.5	533.00	546.75	13.00	13.50
Printing and Publishing	40.0	39.9	588.00	584.54	14.70	14.65
Chemicals and Allied Products	43.5	42.8	582.90	575.66	13.40	13.45
Rubber and Plastic Products	43.0	41.5	448.49	435.75	10.43	10.50
BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA						
Manufacturing	42.3	41.6	$570.63	$565.34	$13.49	$13.59
Durable Goods	43.5	42.7	641.63	630.25	14.75	14.76
Nondurable Goods	41.2	40.6	508.82	509.12	12.35	12.54

NOTE: Data are not seasonally adjusted.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

	November 1993	October 1993	November 1992
Initial Claims	18,254	17,941	23,094
Weeks Claimed	186,580	151,855	196,203
First Payments	9,155	7,500	8,837
Final Payments	1,274	1,476	1,262
Weeks Paid	147,131	119,211	160,514
Net Benefit Amount	$26,268,113	$21,562,597	$28,895,402
Average Check Amount	$178.54	$180.88	.$180.02

Initial claims filings were slightly higher in November, rising for the second consecutive month by just under 2.0 percent to 18,254. At the regional level, trends were mixed, with initial filings falling in both the Baltimore Metro and Balance of State Areas and escalating in the D.C. Suburban and Western regions. The increase was particularly noticeable in the Western region where temporary furloughs in manufacturing caused initial claims to shoot up by more than 50.0 percent to 2,678 in November. Just over two-thirds of the regional upturn was centered in the Oakland local office.

Weeks claimed also advanced during November to 186,580, an increase of 22.9 percent from October's count. Even with this increase, weeks claimed were about 5.0 percent below November 1992's count of 196,203. About 79.0 percent of all weeks claimed during November, or 147,131 weeks, resulted in payment, with weekly checks averaging $178.54, down slightly from October's benefit check of $180.88. Just over 6.0 percent of all weeks paid during November represented first payments while less than 1.0 percent of all weeks compensated were issued as final payments. During November, about 1,274 final payments were reported, down about 13.6 percent from October's count yet slightly higher than the year ago figure of 1,262.

With about 27,900 additional weeks paid during November, the outlay from the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund rose by about $4.7 million over the month to $26.3 million.

REGIONAL INDICATORS
NOVEMBER 1993

	BMA	DC Suburbs	Western Maryland	Balance of State
Initial Claims	8,510	4,245	2,678	2,807
Weeks Claimed	95,847	41,112	12,104	21,058
First Payments	4,290	2,062	764	1,455
Final Payments	678	267	46	115
Weeks Paid	76,472	33,220	9,888	16,502
Net Benefit Amount	$13,651,878	$6,313,421	$1,577,591	$2,578,369
Average Check Amount	$178.52	$190.05	$159.55	$156.25

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